

We Claim:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising 3 wt.% to 50 wt.% telmisartan dispersed in a dissolving matrix comprising:

(a) a basic agent in a molar ratio of basic agent:telmisartan of 1:1 to 10:1;

(b) about 1 wt.% to about 20 wt.% of a surfactant or emulsifier;

(c) 25 wt.% to 70 wt.% of a water-soluble diluent; and

(d) 0 wt.% to 20 wt.% of one or more additional excipients and/or adjuvants;

wherein the sum of all components is 100%.

2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the basic agent is a metal hydroxide or a basic amino acid.

3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the basic agent is NaOH, KOH, NaHCO₃, KHCO₃, Na₂CO₃, K₂CO₃, Na₂HPO₄, K₂HPO₄, arginine, or meglumine.

4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the surfactant or emulsifier is selected from poloxamers, pluronics, polyethylene glycols, polyethylene glycol monostearate, polysorbates, sodium lauryl sulfate, and polyethoxylated and hydrogenated castor oil.

5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the surfactant or emulsifier is selected from poloxamers having an average molecular weight of about 2000 to 12000.

6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein the poloxamer is poloxamer 182LF, poloxamer 331, or poloxamer 188.

7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the water-soluble diluent is selected from carbohydrates, oligosaccharides, and sugar alcohols.
8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the water-soluble diluent is selected glucose, sucrose, erythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, dulcitol, ribitol, and xylitol.
9. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the additional excipients and/or adjuvants are selected from binders, carriers, lubricants, flow control agents, crystallization retarders, solubilizers, and coloring agents.
10. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 in the form of a capsule or a tablet.
11. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 or claim 10, comprising a dosage unit of 10 mg to 160 mg of telmisartan.
12. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, comprising a dosage unit of 10 mg to 160 mg of telmisartan.
13. A bilayer pharmaceutical tablet comprising:
 - (a) a first telmisartan-containing tablet layer comprising the pharmaceutical composition of one of claims 1 to 9; and
 - (b) a second tablet layer containing a diuretic in a disintegrating tablet matrix.
14. A process for preparing the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 using a fluid-bed granulation process, comprising:
 - (i) preparing a granulation liquid as an aqueous solution by dissolving 3 wt.% to 50 wt.% of telmisartan together with the following components in water or in a mixture solution of ethanol and water:

- (a) a basic agent in a molar ratio of basic agent:telmisartan of 1:1 to 10:1, and
- (b) a nonionic surfactant or emulsifier in an amount of about 1 wt.% to about 20 wt.%;

- (ii) placing 25 wt.% to 70 wt.% of a water-soluble diluent in a fluid-bed granulator, optionally together with 10 wt.% to 20 wt.% of a dry binder, including a premix-step;
- (iii) carrying out the fluid-bed granulation using the granulation liquid for spraying on the components placed in the granulator;
- (iv) drying the granulation thus obtained and, optionally, screening the granulate obtained;
- (v) optionally blending the granulate with one or more additional excipients and/or adjuvants; and
- (vi) optionally milling the granulate thus obtained in order to produce a powdery composition of defined particle size distribution;

wherein all percentage amounts given are related to the final composition to be prepared.

15. A process for preparing the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 using a spray drying process, comprising:

- (i) preparing an aqueous spray-solution by dissolving 3 wt.% to 50 wt.% of telmisartan together with the following components in water or mixture solution of ethanol and water:
 - (a) a basic agent in a molar ratio of basic agent:telmisartan of 1:1 to 10:1, and

(b) a nonionic surfactant or emulsifier in an amount of about 1 wt.% to 20 wt.%,

- (ii) spray-drying the aqueous spray-solution to obtain a spray-dried granulate;
- (iii) mixing the spray-dried granulate with 25 wt.% to 70 wt.% of a water-soluble diluent to obtain a premix;
- (iv) optionally mixing the premix with a lubricant;
- (v) optionally adding additional excipients and/or adjuvants in any of steps (i) to (iv),

wherein all percentage amounts given are related to the final composition to be prepared.